

The Hongkong Telegraph

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LULL IN KOREA CONTINUING Chinese Believed Preparing For New Year Strike

COMMENT

However strong or weak the ties between Russia and the Peking regime may eventually prove to be, they would seem to be at least as strong as those between Germany and Italy in 1939. Therefore a war against one of them must, we may assume, involve in due course a war against the other. In this still lie the most dangerous possibilities if a major entanglement between the United Nations forces in Korea and the Chinese Communist armies were to develop.

General MacArthur's report to the United Nations on the military operations in Korea asserts that the Chinese Communists have apparently taken over direct responsibility for the whole of the North Korean front. Significantly perhaps, a simultaneous release from the General's headquarters in Tokyo assesses total Communist strength in Korea at over 400,000, and total Communist forces in Korea and Manchuria, or en route, at some 1,300,000.

The figures are formidable indeed and emphasise the difficulty confronting the United Nations. China can reinforce her troops in Korea with ease; the vast sea distances which separate the battle areas from the main United Nations base present the UN at a maximum disadvantage.

The superior fire power of the United Nations forces, combined with their quasi-superiority in the air, are, to be sure, compensatory factors but the most likely development in the future course of the Korean war, should the Chinese launch a large-scale offensive, is that it will result in a prolonged stalemate, with all the consequent dangers that this would entail.

To continue indefinitely a major land war in Korea would be the height of folly for the United Nations. The need is greater than ever for a reasonable compromise with the Chinese. If the war with the Chinese were to spread further, it is not in Korea but in Indo-China that the Allies would need to deploy what soldiers they could afford.

Not Yet Across 38th Parallel In Major Force

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

The ominous lull along most of the battle front was unbroken throughout the last 24 hours, but General MacArthur's Intelligence Section said today that 150,000 Chinese Communists were poised for a strike at the Eighth Army across the 38th Parallel on New Year's Day or soon after.

Reuter's correspondent, John Colless, reported that the Eighth Army Headquarters spokesman had denied he had announced that troops, tentatively identified as Chinese Communists, had already crossed the Parallel in force.

A report that Chinese Communists had already swarmed over the Parallel said that they had already occupied undefended Kaesong. The spokesman commented: "All we know is that Chinese Communist troops have been reported in the vicinity of Kaesong for the past several days."

The spokesman at General MacArthur's Headquarters knew nothing about the massed Chinese Communists crossing through field reports would probably have been in by now if there had been a show of strength.

There have been many reports in the last few days about a small Chinese Communist invasion of the South.

The Tokyo spokesman said that a mass crossing might

come even tonight or tomorrow, but emphasised that the Press report was premature as far as was known.

Heavy Communist patrol activity was reported—but not confirmed by the Eighth Army—on the east coast just below the Parallel, where the South Koreans are manning the defence line.

The South Korean Army spokesman was reported to have said that the Communist forces in this area were definitely a flanking threat to the United Nations line.—Reuter.

NEW PEACE EFFORT BY ASIA BLOC

Lake Success, Dec. 28.

The Asian-Arab bloc at the United Nations held an urgent meeting late on Thursday to work out a new attempt at settling the Far Eastern crisis.

Delegation sources confirmed that the 12-nation group tentatively planned to press for adoption by the General Assembly next week of their previously sidetracked proposal for peace parleys on Korea and a broad range of other Far Eastern issues.

This resolution was originally put forward at the same time as the 12 nations plus the Philippines proposed that a three-man cease-fire team try first to arrange a Korean cease-fire.

The Asian-Arab group met at five p.m. at the Fifth Avenue apartment of India's Sir Benegal Rau, a member of the cease-fire team and the guiding spirit of the Asian-Arab peace efforts.

The new attempt to push through the peace parley scheme has been spurred by Peking's rejection of the cease-fire proposal.

The Philippines refused to sponsor the companion peace parley resolution, and have not been invited to the new series of sessions.—United Press.

BAN EXTENDED

Seoul, Dec. 28.

A new censorship ban on dispositions of all divisions and independent brigades in the United Nations forces in Korea was announced officially here today.

Under the ban units will be referred to only as units of the Eighth Army and there will be no specific mention of any Corps headquarters.

Announcing the ban in a memo to all correspondents, Major Mell Vorhees said: "Effective now and until further notice, the order of battle information will not be cleared for transmission. Specifically no mention will be made of units lower in echelon than the Eighth Army."

TANKS BOMBED

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

American aircraft flying over Korea today discovered seven hidden Communist tanks north of the 38th Parallel.

The tanks were covered with white canvas to blend with the snow.

Bombs were dropped and rockets fired, but the nature of the terrain made immediate observation of the results impossible.

Pilots claimed that about 100 Communist troops were killed on the ground.

Fifty-nine Communist-held towns or villages, 275 buildings and 34 vehicles were also claimed to have been damaged or destroyed in other raids.—Reuter.

Peking Seizure Of US Assets

London, Dec. 28.

The New China News Agency reported on Thursday that Communist China had seized all American assets in her territory, and frozen American deposits in Chinese banks, in retaliation for the American embargo on shipments to Chinese ports.

The agency, in a broadcast monitored here, said the Peking regime ordered an inventory of all American assets from the day of the proclamation of the United States embargo order last Dec. 16.

The broadcast said the United States embargo was an aggressive and hostile act and that the Central People's Government took the measure "in order to prevent the United States Government from engaging in economic disruption within the country and endangering the interests of the people of the country."—United Press.

SHIP FIRE DRAMA: ONE DEAD

Hamilton, Bermuda, Dec. 28.

One crew member was suffocated and a dozen crew members and American volunteers were overcome by smoke while fighting a fire in the hold of the Swedish freighter Thai today.

The ship, en route to Bombay from Houston, Texas, with a load of maize, caught fire early today and made it to St George's Harbour.

The second officer, Lallip Falkkoo, 32, of Sweden, was suffocated when he was trapped in the hold by two pieces of fallen timber. He was pronounced dead on arrival at King Edward Hospital.

(The Coast Guard in New York announced that it had despatched a plane with rescue equipment from Elizabeth City, North Carolina, including six asbestos suits. Officials said the plane should reach the scene at about 8.30 a.m.; according to the Coast Guard's information, the fire was well out of control and the equipment was requested to fight a blaze between the decks of the ship, which is moored in the harbour.)

Falkkoo was taken from the hold after about one hour's rescue efforts. He and two kindley firemen, wearing smoke masks, had entered the hold from the engine room to investigate the fire. The firemen were able to get back to the door of the hold, where they collapsed and were hauled to safety.—United Press.

Plans Completed

San Francisco, Dec. 28.

Peking Radio reported tonight that industrial enterprises in Central-South China had completed their plans for 1950.

Plants under the Central-South China Industrial Department's control had, by the middle of December, surpassed their targets in such products as non-ferrous metals, cement and electric appliances.

At the end of November the output of tin for 1950 had been surpassed by 39 percent, the Radio said.—Reuter.



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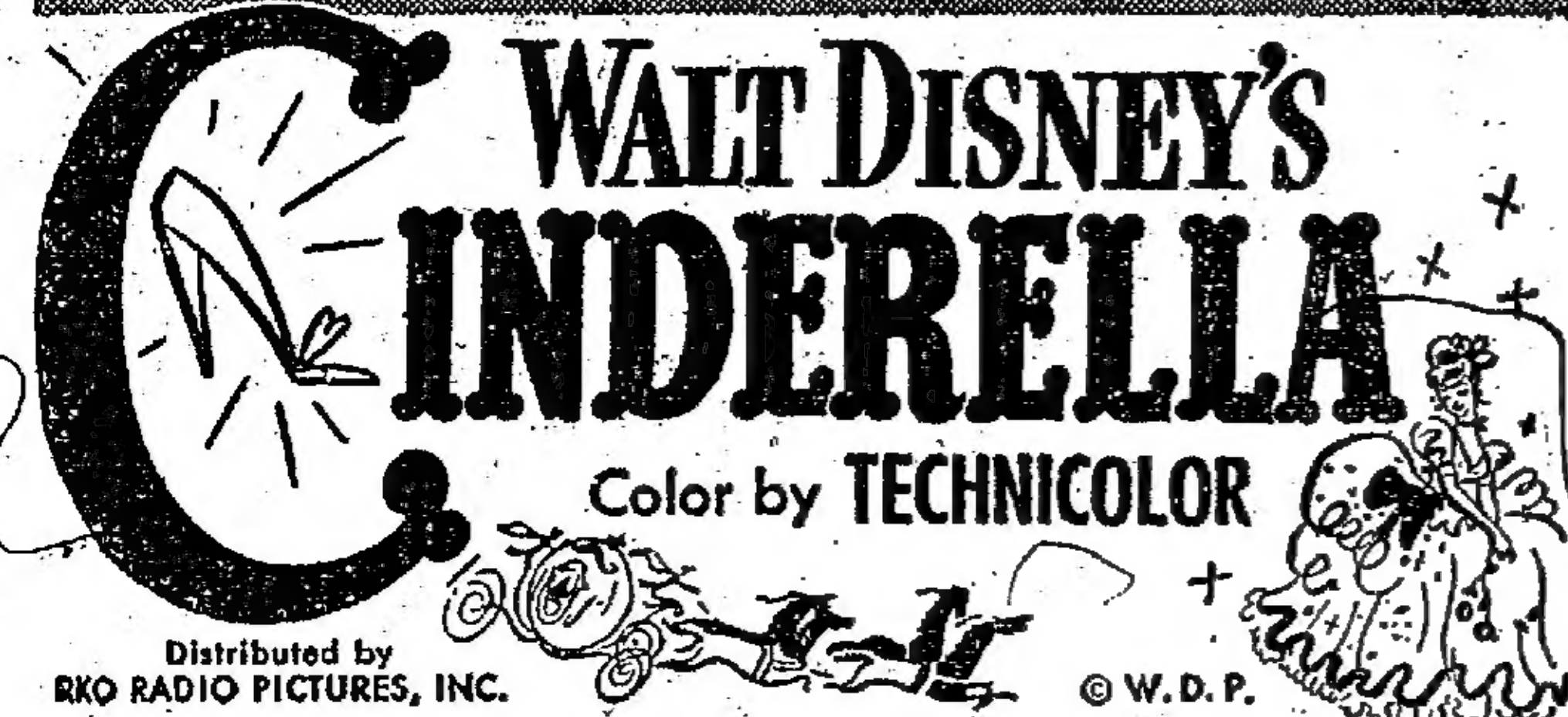
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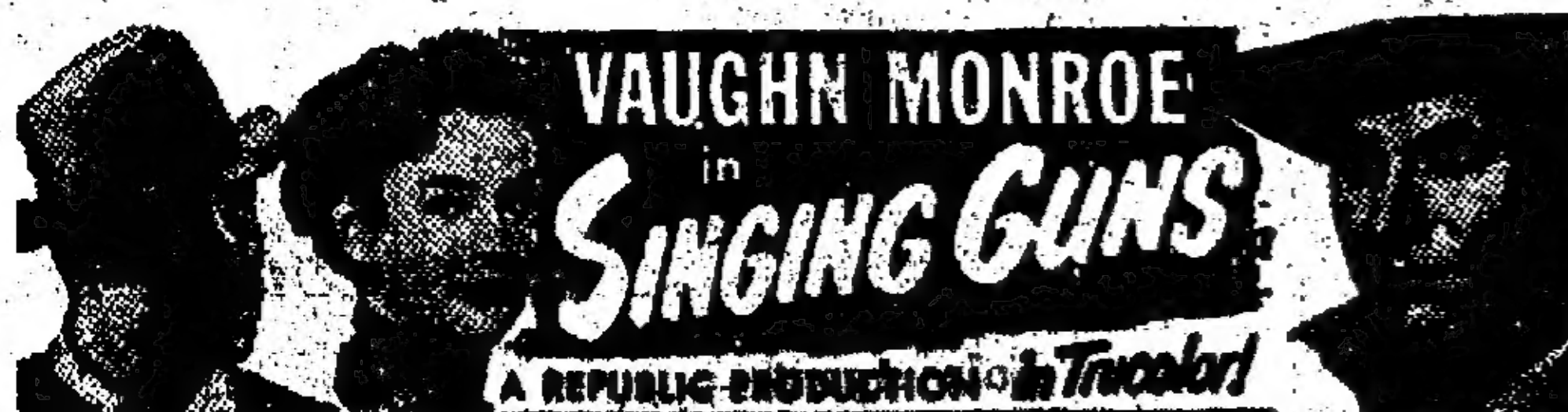
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Carrying banners and flags, members of the French World War I and II Ex-Serviceman's Association march down an avenue in Paris near the Arc de Triomphe. The parade was a demonstration for an increase in their pensions.

**AMERICAN REJECTION
OF RUSSIAN PROTEST
OVER JAPANESE PACT**

Washington, Dec. 28.

The United States served notice on Russia today that it intends to push forward with its efforts for a Japanese peace treaty with or without Soviet participation.

The United States position was spelled out in a note handed to the Russian United Nations delegate, Mr. Jacob Malik, in New York today. It rejected a Soviet protest received here on Nov. 20.

The Soviet note had indirectly accused the United States of planning to sign a separate peace treaty with Japan and of seeking permanent United States military bases in Japan. It said that both moves were contrary to the Potsdam Agreement.

In reply, the United States note said that world peace and security envisaged at Potsdam has not been achieved and "irresponsible militarism had not been driven from the world." It said it is only reasonable for Japan to participate with the United States and other nations for individual and collective defence. However, arrangements could increase provisions for stationing in Japan of troops of the United States and other nations.

On the question of a separate peace treaty, the note said, "The United States hopes all nations which fought against Japan—including Russia—will help write a treaty." But it added that the "United States does not concede that any one nation has the perpetual power to veto a conclusion by others of peace with Japan."

The United States note brushed aside Russia's suggestion that the treaty be written primarily by the United States, Russia, Britain and Communist China. The United States comment was that the United States does not recognise the Chinese Communist regime as a government.

TRUSTEESHIP BID

Other points in the United States reply include: 1. The United States will seek a peace treaty that does not limit Japan's peacetime economy and which gives Japan full access to sources of raw material and to participation in world trade.

2. The United States will seek strategic United Nations trusteeship over the Ryukyu and Bonin Islands formerly held by

Japan and does not consider this as "territorial expansion" as charged by Russia.

The Americans likewise refused to back down from their position that the United States and other forces could under treaty provisions remain in Japan to defend that country against the threat of aggression.

The Russians had asked in their aide memoire whether the United States contemplated that "even after the conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan, American military, naval and air force bases will be maintained on the territory of Japan."

The U.S. replied, "It is the view of the United States Government that upon the conclusion of a peace settlement, the military occupation of Japan would cease." It said, however, the fact that "irresponsible militarism has not been driven from the world would at the same time make it reasonable for Japan to participate with the United States and other nations in arrangements for individual and collective self-defence such as are envisaged in the United Nations Charter and particularly Article 51 thereof." This is the article on collective security under which the North Atlantic pact was drafted and presumably implied American willingness to see a Pacific pact with Japanese participation.

JAPANESE ARMY

The note added that these collective security arrangements could include provisions for stationing in Japan of troops of the United States and other nations.

The United States side-stepped the Soviet question whether a post-treaty Japan should be permitted to have an Army, Navy and Air Force. The Russians had recalled that

the 13-nation Far Eastern Commission in June, 1947, banned Japanese rearmament completely.

The State Department note pointed out that the Far Eastern Commission was set up to make policy for Japan only until the treaty was achieved and that its decisions would not be binding after that unless they were formally incorporated in a pact.

The United States also rejected Russia's contention that the fate of Formosa, the Pescadores, South Sakhalin and Kurile Islands was not a fit subject for the peace conference since the Cairo Declaration had awarded Formosa and Pescadores to China and the other two to Russia.—United Press.

Important Session

Geneva, Dec. 28.

The Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will meet here on January 4 for an "important session," the Secretariat said today.

The agenda for the session was not specified.

The Union is composed of Parliamentary representatives of 36 countries. The Committee, presided over by Lord Stansgate (Britain), includes many well-known Parliamentary figures on national European assemblies.—Reuter.

Record Shark Catch

Adelaide, Dec. 28.

On a week-end trip to Dangerous Reef, near Port Lincoln, Mr and Mrs Cowell, of Balhannah, caught 755-pound and 603-pound sharks on 15-thread and 24-thread lines.

They believe they set records with the gear used. They brought the sharks home.—Reuter.

NEW ASIA CRISIS FEAR

Possible Sequel To Failure At Hague

Controversy Over Future Of Western New Guinea

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 28.

Failure of the Dutch-Indonesian talks over the future of West New Guinea, which coincided with the first anniversary of the Indonesian Republic, may touch off a new crisis in Asia.

A spokesman of the Dutch Embassy in London today expressed the fear that "reprisals" for the Dutch Government's refusal to hand over West New Guinea to Indonesia will be taken against Dutch residents in Indonesia.

Holland has considerable economic interests in Indonesia and any move to hinder Dutch nationals carrying out their day-to-day business there would have serious repercussions.

The British Government, which has maintained a strictly neutral attitude towards the question of West New Guinea, has urged the Dutch Government to pursue every possible means of affecting a settlement and has pointed out that failure to do so might result in West New Guinea becoming a new Asian trouble spot.

Efforts may now be made to reach a solution by asking the United Nations Commission in Indonesia to act as mediators. The Dutch Government has suggested this course but the Indonesians are standing out for nothing less than complete sovereignty over West New Guinea with actual transfer postponed for six months.

Negotiations to settle the West New Guinea issue "within a year" were called for under the terms of transfer of sovereignty over Indonesia from the Dutch Government to the Indonesian Republic on Dec. 27, 1949.

Dutch views are that the future of West New Guinea should be decided by the people of the colony when they are politically capable. Under such a decision can be made they are strenuously opposed to the Indonesian claim to the colony on the grounds that it has no

connection with Indonesia "either geographically or anthropologically."

CABINET IN DANGER

Failure of the Hague talks endangers the Indonesian Cabinet, it was stated here this morning. But if the talks had been successful from the Indonesian point of view, the Dutch Government might have been defeated by Parliament which would have had to approve the transfer of West New Guinea sovereignty to Indonesia. An authoritative Dutch source said today that it was extremely doubtful whether the two-thirds majority necessary for Parliamentary approval could have been obtained.

Although Australia has a vital interest in the future of West New Guinea its views, which were placed before the Dutch Government some time ago, were not discussed at the Hague Conference. The disputed territory lies less than 100 miles away from Australia's northern seaboard and adjoins Australian-mandated Eastern Guinea. The Australian Government considers this territory vital to its strategic interests and has intimated it should have a say in any de-

cision over the future of West New Guinea.

Referring to the failure of the talks the Manchester Guardian says in a leading article this morning that if the parties concerned wanted an unnecessary crisis they might have chosen a quieter time internationally to indulge in it.

In spite of their difference with the Dutch Government over West New Guinea, the Indonesians have done well in their first 12 months, the newspaper continues. Communism is no stronger than it was a year ago; economic life is reviving and exports are up.

But the Guardian takes the Indonesian Government to task for its "head in air" attitude towards foreign investments. Capital for south east Asia is scarce, it says, and the Indonesians will come down to reality when they realise it.

DIJAKARTA TENSE

Djakarta, Dec. 28.

Djakarta police have special orders if trouble such as attempted reprisals against Dutch residents follows the Hague deadlock on Western New Guinea.

The Information Minister, Mr Pellaupessy, said today that these orders were in line with the Government's pledge to safeguard individuals and their property.

Djakarta was tense today, with armed police standing on guard outside Dutch business houses. Troops and military police raced through the streets in lorries, jeeps and motorcycles, but no clashes were reported.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIAN CONCERN

Sydney, Dec. 28.

The Sydney Morning Herald said today that Britain had not seen fit to lift a diplomatic little finger to promote a solution to the New Guinea problem, upon which Australia's security depended.

"Should Western New Guinea's sovereignty pass to the Indonesians, New Guinea, from Australia's point of view, would become militarily untenable," the Morning Herald said in an editorial on the failure of the talks at The Hague between the Dutch and the Indonesian delegates to agree on the future status of New Guinea.

"Considering Australia's deep interest in the preservation of the status quo in New Guinea, it must occasion surprise and concern that the British Government has signally failed to support her (Australia's) attitude," the newspaper said.

"Instead, Whitehall has followed a rigid policy of non-interference, a policy adopted also by Washington."

"It is earnestly hoped that in the course of future negotiations Britain and America will display less indifference to the security problems of an important sector of the democratic front in the Pacific."—Reuter.

Trams Converted

Perth, Dec. 28.

As the Perth Tramways Department steps up its use of trolley and petrol buses, its old trams are being scrapped by the house-hungry for conversion to homes.—Reuter.

MR YOSHIDA ON DEFENCE OF JAPAN

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

The Japanese people should defend their country with their own hands, but should adopt means other than that of raising a military force, declared Mr Shigeru Yoshida, the Japanese Prime Minister, today at his last press conference of the year.

The Prime Minister said that neither the Japanese people nor political parties should discuss the question of rearmament.

He recalled that Japan had suffered heavily, both domestically and internationally, in the past because of excessive militarisation.

The Japanese leader described the present state of world affairs as a "war of nerves" but expressed the belief that a third world war would not come for some time.

Although Mr Yoshida rejected the raising of an army as a method of self-defence, he did not indicate what other course there was for Japan to defend herself with her own hands.

He said that it was a problem for further study.—Reuter.



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Armed Strength Need Of UN

Washington, Dec. 28.

Dr Ralph Bunche, Nobel Peace Prize Winner and United Nations official, said today that the free nations must make available to the United Nations sufficient military strength to halt any aggressor.

"I believe that if that kind of force can be made available to the United Nations, it will never again be challenged," he said.

Dr Bunche, a Negro, was addressing the annual meeting of the American Political Defence Association.—Reuter.

Unemployment Aid

Canberra.

At the end of October, only 461 Australians—100 of them women—were drawing unemployment benefits, the Commonwealth Statistician announced.

He added that the Commonwealth Employment Service had vacancies for 124,500, most of them in manufacturing industries.—Reuter.

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NEW YEAR ATTRACTION

John Diana
DEREK LYNNin
"Rogues Of
Sherwood Forest"
In Technicolor
A Columbia Picture

Largest Order Ever Issued For World War Jeeps

Detroit, Dec. 28.

Two new war orders, including the largest ever issued for the jeep of World War II renown, hurried the motor industry's return to a defence role. Today's orders increased the number of automakers working on war material to seven.

One new order went to Willys Overland Motors for \$63,000,000 worth of jeeps capable of operating under water. The improved version of the famous little vehicle of the last war will be produced in Toledo, Ohio, where Willys Overland already has handled smaller military contracts since the Korean war.

The new jeeps are capable of operating under seven feet of water and can perform at maximum efficiency under extreme conditions of heat and cold.

The Oldsmobile division of General Motors Corporation said it would produce 3.5-inch rockets for the Army's New super-bazooka. General Motors disclosed that it was converting its Kansas City assembly plant to production of F-84 Thunderjet fighter planes for the Air Force.

Previously, rush orders had gone out to Ford for B-36 engines, to Cadillac for light tanks, Chrysler for heavier-

armoured vehicles, Buick for tank parts and heavy trucks which can be operated under water. Willys Overland's new jeep order was \$16,000,000 bigger than the previous record contract in August 1944.—United Press.

Housewives Told Not To Hoard

Washington, Dec. 28.

The Department of Agriculture told housewives on Wednesday not to hoard. Officials said the national cellar is full and there is plenty of food for everyone.

They predicted confidently there will be no need for food rationing next year. They said that even if the 1951 crop fails, the present backlog of food stuffs would be sufficient to meet domestic, military and foreign demands.—United Press.

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Price \$3.50

DUTCH SHIPPING FIRM FINED FOR TAKING TROOPS

Amsterdam, Dec. 28.

The Royal Dutch Steampacket Company (KPM) was today fined 250,000 guilders for taking Indonesian troops to Amboin Island last month while Indonesian and South Moluccan troops were still fighting.

Amboin Island, now occupied by Indonesian troops, was the last stronghold of the self-proclaimed Republic of the South Moluccas.

The Court found today that "fighting between Indonesian and South Moluccan troops was still going on" at the time. Counsel for the K.P.M. asserted last week that the fighting was ended, and that the ship's passengers were "occupation forces" to relieve troops that had been in action.

An Amsterdam District Court ruled on November 2 that every ship of the company that continued to carry troops for the Indonesian Republic to the South Moluccas would be fined 250,000 guilders.

KPM's appeal against the order of November 2 is still to be heard.

The Court ruled today that the fine be deposited with a Dutch bank, where it would be held for payment to the party which finally wins the legal battle on the transport of the troops.

It was learned in The Hague that the Dutch Government had also appealed against a Hague Court verdict on the repatriation of former Amboinese members of the Dutch Army in Indonesia.



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The Court ruled last week that the Dutch could not send the Amboinese anywhere in Indonesia occupied by Indonesian troops without their own consent.

The Government would be fined one million guilders (£100,000) for any violation. About 4,000 former Amboinese troops and 9,000 relatives now in Dutch camps in Java were to have been returned to Amboin Island this month.—Reuter.

A BLUNT WARNING BY TITO

Belgrade, Dec. 28.

Marshal Tito warned tonight that Yugoslavia was directly threatened with aggression by at least 660,000 Soviet troops in Bulgaria, Croatia and Hungary.

Marshal Tito gave his warning in an appeal for approval of the record-breaking budget. He said bluntly that only a fool would feel safe from Russia and its Eastern European satellites who, he declared, had gone far beyond the peace treaty limits in their war preparations.

Speaking in his role as national leader, and almost without reference to the Communist Party which he heads, Marshal Tito said that, as a result of new call-ups in the past year in the satellite countries, Bulgaria had an army of 195,000 men, Hungary 165,000, Rumania 100,000. He read the specific limits of the peace treaty, calling for a Bulgarian army of 67,500, a Hungarian force of 70,000. He outlined how the satellites had gone beyond these ceilings.

Marshal Tito warned the world at large not to fall into the mistake of peace at any cost.

"We are opposed to any sort of aggression, whether it is being carried out by capitalist or socialist countries. Reliance upon their armed forces became clear in connection with the attitude of the Soviet Union, which is the most armed power in the world today and taking most advantage of that fact, especially in regard to small nations like ours.

He spoke also against the "strange peace propaganda campaign led by the Soviet Union." "By peace they mean, 'Stop, do not move. Wait until you may be allowed by us.' If you do not agree to that and offer resistance, then you are an aggressor, you are a great danger to the Soviet Union."

Throughout his speech, Marshal Tito stressed that peace at any price would be a catastrophe for the world and he appealed indirectly to the big powers to settle their differences and make a just and lasting peace.—United Press.

Dog As Payment

Edmonton, Alberta, Dec. 28.

C.B. Freeland's prize Labrador dog ate so much that Mr Freeland could not pay his food bill. When General Foods, Ltd., of Toronto, pressed him for payment, he sent them the dog.—United Press.



A SUNNY SIGHT—Starlet Jean Ruth relaxes in Hollywood as she basks in warm sunshine that is making itself conspicuous by its absence in the eastern part of the United States these days. The sight of anyone as lovely as Jean should warm any cold heart.

Soviet Protests Against Japanese Civil Jurisdiction

Washington, Dec. 28.

The Soviet Union on Thursday protested against the recent Far Eastern Commission decision giving Japanese courts criminal and civil jurisdiction over United Nations nationals in that country.

Soviet Ambassador Alexander Panyushkin told a Far Eastern Commission meeting the decision was "illegal" because it was adopted during the absence of the Russian representative on the Commission.

The decision was adopted on September 22 at the time when the Soviet Union was boycotting the Commission in protest against the continued presence on that body of the Chinese Nationalist representative.

The American representative on the F.E.C., Mr Maxwell Hamilton who is also its chairman, replied: "The willful absence of any member of the Commission does not invalidate any decisions taken."

Prior to the September 22 decision, Japanese courts had only limited civil jurisdiction over Allied nationals in Japan. The United States sponsored the move to give them complete jurisdiction in an effort to reduce the restrictions under which the Japanese Gov-

ernment must work pending a peace treaty.

F.E.C. members said they assumed Russia would have vetoed the action if Mr Panyushkin had been at the meeting, since the Soviet Union previously indicated it resents Japanese judges exercising jurisdiction over United Nations nationals in Japan.—United Press.

OUTPUT OF COTTON UP IN HOPEI

San Francisco, Dec. 28.

Statistics made available by the authorities on the Chinese mainland show that both grain and cotton output has gone up in Hopei Province, Peking Radio reported tonight.

The production of grain in the Province exceeded the prewar level by two percent; cotton output was 81 percent higher than the annual average figure of the last seven prewar years, the Radio reported.

It added, "This is a tremendous achievement in view of the fact that in Hopei Province agricultural production had dropped by a quarter during the war years."

One factor contributing to the recorded rise was that 20,000,000 peasants in the Province now owned their own land—"never so well tilled as it is now", the broadcast said.—Reuter.

Burmese Clash

Rangoon, Dec. 28.

The Rangoon newspaper, The Nation said today that Burmese troops had clashed with a band of Kuomintang (Chinese Nationalist) deserters who have been in hiding in Burma.

The newspaper said that the deserters broke out of their internment camp and were heading towards the War States in South-western Burma when Burmese troops marched to meet them and fighting followed.—Reuter.

YUGOSLAVS FACE HARDSHIP

One Of The Worst Harvests In Living Memory

Tito's Efforts To Buy Food From U.S.

Belgrade, Dec. 28.

The Yugoslav people are facing the prospect of real hardship this winter, with the possibility of some starvation in remote mountain districts, as a result of a disastrous harvest.

Its worst consequences may, however, still be averted if Marshal Tito's current efforts to conserve food and animal feed at home and purchase further supplies in America are fully successful.

Diplomatic circles here believe that if the food situation were allowed to get out of hand, it might have serious political repercussions on Marshal Tito's regime, which would play into the hands of the Cominform.

AMERICA HITS AT HOARDERS

Washington, Dec. 28.

The Government issued a new anti-hoarding order today to prevent business and consumers from stockpiling scarce materials.

While the order applies to housewives as well as big corporations, the list of hundreds of scarce materials attached to the regulation made it unlikely that Government investigators would be prying into the pantries of private homes.

The list includes certain building materials, chemicals, iron and steel products and scrap, lumber, plywood, wood pulp, aluminium, antimony, asbestos, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, industrial diamonds, lead, mica, molybdenum, nickel, platinum, talc, tungsten, vanadium, zinc, zircon, paper, paper board and hog bristles.

The order did not mention rubber or any rubber products.

Penalties provided by the Defence Production Act for violations of the regulation are a \$10,000 fine or one year in prison or both.

The order specifies hoarding as stockpiling in excess of reasonable demand or for the purpose of buying scarce materials with plans to resell them on the black market at higher prices. The order was issued by the National Production Authority.—United Press.

Miners Entombed

Manila, Dec. 29.

A Press report from the town of General MacArthur in Samar Province said 10 miners were entombed in a pit of the Samar Mining Company due to a landslide.

Two bodies were recovered, but the fate of the eight other persons was still unknown.—United Press.

A prolonged drought lasting from the middle of May until October following a winter in which there was very little snow or rain has resulted in one of the worst harvests in living memory.

The latest informed estimates give the following harvest deficiencies: wheat 600,000 tons, or 25 per cent below the average harvest; maize 1,125,000 tons down or 35 per cent; potatoes 700,000 tons down or 40 per cent; sugar beet 300,000 tons or 39 per cent down; vegetables 40 to 50 per cent down.

The blow is all the harder since it comes at a time when the Government has been doing everything possible to increase food production in order to feed an urban population which has increased by nearly one million since the war as a result of the five-year industrialisation plan.

FOOD RELIEF

Marshal Tito's measures to meet the present emergency include an approach to the United States for food relief, ration cuts, the slaughter of cattle and the distribution of food from surplus areas to the districts most affected by drought.

Yugoslav representatives in Washington are already negotiating with the State Department on the possibility of purchasing food surpluses in America. The snag is how to pay for them.

The drought has cost this country an estimated figure of £33,400,000 worth of foodstuffs but her present dollar holdings are believed not to exceed \$20,000,000 (£7,000,000), most of which has already been earmarked for capital equipment purchases.

The Yugoslavs have already asked the United States Government for \$105 million with which to buy foodstuffs in America and for permission to manipulate the existing dollar credits for the same purposes.

With the expectation that the Yugoslav food stocks will be near rock bottom after next February, it is considered here to be imperative that relief shipments should begin as soon as possible.—Reuter.



ONLY FOR A MOMENT—With the weather to fight as well as overwhelming Chinese Red troops, men of a 7th Marine Regiment 105-mm. gun battery build a snowman while other gun crewmen clean their weapon during a brief lull in the Korea fighting.

Records Set By United States Rubber Industry

Washington, Dec. 28.

The United States rubber industry established records in 1950 for consumption, production and price.

By the end of October, the United States had already used 1,048,558 tons of new rubber, synthetic and natural. This was more than 27 per cent above the 820,885 tons used in the period of 1949 and was more tonnage than many had expected for the entire year.

Mr W. S. Lockwood, Director of the Natural Rubber Bureau, estimated that final figures for the year would show American consumption at 1,250,000 tons. Of this, about 715,000 tons would be natural and 535,000 tons synthetic.

By November 1 rubber growers in Malaya and other areas had produced more than 1,500,000 tons.

The Natural Rubber Bureau estimated that the figures for the full year would be about 1,850,000 tons. This would exceed by more than 350,000 tons the 1949 total of 1,487,500 tons and by 250,000 tons the previous all-time peak of 1,600,000 tons achieved in 1941.

Mr Lockwood added: "The fact that Malaya and the surrounding rubber-growing countries produced the record amount of rubber they did provided one of the few bright spots in the Far Eastern picture last year.

"It proves an independence and morale on the part of the people that stood us in good stead in 1950 and will continue to do so as long as their economy stays healthy.

"That economic health is one of our strongest bulwarks against Asiatic Communism—and rubber is one of the major foundations on which that economy depends."—Reuter.

HEALING OF U.S.-SPAIN RELATIONS

Washington, Dec. 28.

End of the five-year United States boycott went a long way to align Spain with other Western nations in the fight against Communism.

Some military men hoped Spain eventually would come in as a full partner in the North Atlantic Pact. They also hoped the government of Francisco Franco might be strengthened by Marshall Plan funds or through the arms aid programme.

But for the present they are interested primarily in Spain's army and its remarkable strategic position in Europe. Protected on the north by the Pyrenees mountains, Spain could provide bases for aircraft to range over Europe, Africa and the Atlantic and Mediterranean Oceans.

The United States and Spain named two men whose job will be to heal a festering sore between the two nations—Mr Stanton Griffis, American investment banker and corporation officer, and former Spanish Foreign Minister, Senhor Jose Felix Lequerica.—United Press.

NANCY

Tu-be or Not Tu-be

By Ernie Bushmiller



ALL IS NOT WELL WITH THE AUSTRALIAN TEST CRICKET TEAM

Says HAROLD MAYES

Britain, in the grip of snow and ice, seems a long way from Test cricket. It is, of course, but a week from now, whatever has happened in the New Year Soccer battles, Australia v. England will still be one of the chief topics of conversation.

By that time England may be well on the way to being three down in the series. Sure, there'll be plenty of people ready to tell me that they performed very creditably in the Brisbane game, and that only the elements licked them, but while morale may have been boosted as a result, I am afraid that the ultimate ending is still only too obvious.

To me the position is that England have put everything in the shop window and the Aussies know just what to expect. Even the fact that all may not be well in the Australian camp is not sound enough reason for feeling that the tide may turn, for they have the talent on hand to stifle immediately any suggestion of dissension, and have already proved that they don't even give a chap a chance to fail a second time by the dropping of Jack Moroney.

Did I say dissension in the Aussie team? Yes, I'm assured that all is not well, and there is every reason to believe that skipper Lindsay Hassett may be superseded during the series. Arthur Morris, tipped as his successor, has already gone a long way towards clinching claims to the captaincy by a century followed by a sound tactical handling of the situation in the current game.

"WORLD'S BEST"

Incidentally, while Australians showered bouquets on Len Hutton for his Brisbane and Melbourne show, one member of the England party who knows

as much about the arts and crafts of batsmanship as the next has written to a friend saying:

"Without any doubt, Keith Miller is now the world's best. The only time he hits the ball in the air it goes for six."

Great praise, and it could be one reason why members of the MCC party are almost resigned to the fact that he'll be the man to collect the £1,000 prize offered by an Australian firm to the most successful cricketer of the series.

If not Miller, they're sure it will be an Australian. So far, Bill Johnston has been given six points for his bowling.

Remember that he took seven wickets in the Brisbane Test for '65. Then recall that both Alec Bedser and Trevor Bailey earned the same number of scalps for fewer runs, although having to bowl on one good wicket and a bad one instead of two bad ones, and you'll see which way the wind is blowing.

INSURANCE PRECAUTION

When top-ranking sportsmen travel, the governing bodies usually take the precaution of insuring them. The Football Association, for example, cover the members of an England team for £10,000 apiece.

Yet I was amazed to learn, in conversation with an athletics official last week, that the British Amateur Athletic Board do not insure team members when they go on representative trips by air.

To safeguard themselves they have the athletes sign a declaration that the Board are not held responsible for any accidents that may occur in flight, on in the course of competition.

When Len Eyre, Alec Olney and Geoff Saunders travelled recently to Brussels to compete in a big international cross-country event, they were insured by the English Cross Country Union, and the cost was only two bob each way—I rather like that!—for a thousand pounds coverage per head.

Surely the BAAB could afford a like amount, or does it sound too much like a gamble for them?

Two Challengers In Thomas Cup Pacific Zone

London, Dec. 27.

India and Australia thus are the only badminton playing countries whose challenges have been received for the Pacific Zone of the Thomas Cup 1951-52 competition.

The Secretary of the International Badminton Federation, H. A.E. Scheele, told the United Press tonight that they are the only two entries he had received originally. Scheele added, however, he expected that other challenges for the Pacific Zone would arrive before the closing date on January 1. Among the possible entries are Hongkong, New Zealand and the Philippines. A draw for the zone will not take place until January 5.

Challenges delayed in delivery to the International Federation beyond New Year's Day probably will be included if they arrive before the draw takes place.

The draw for the American and European Zones of the tourney will be made here on July 4. Holders of the Thomas Cup, Malaya, will not be called upon to play until the ultimate challenger has been decided from among the competing nations throughout the world.—United Press.

Australian LTA May Ban The Player-Writers

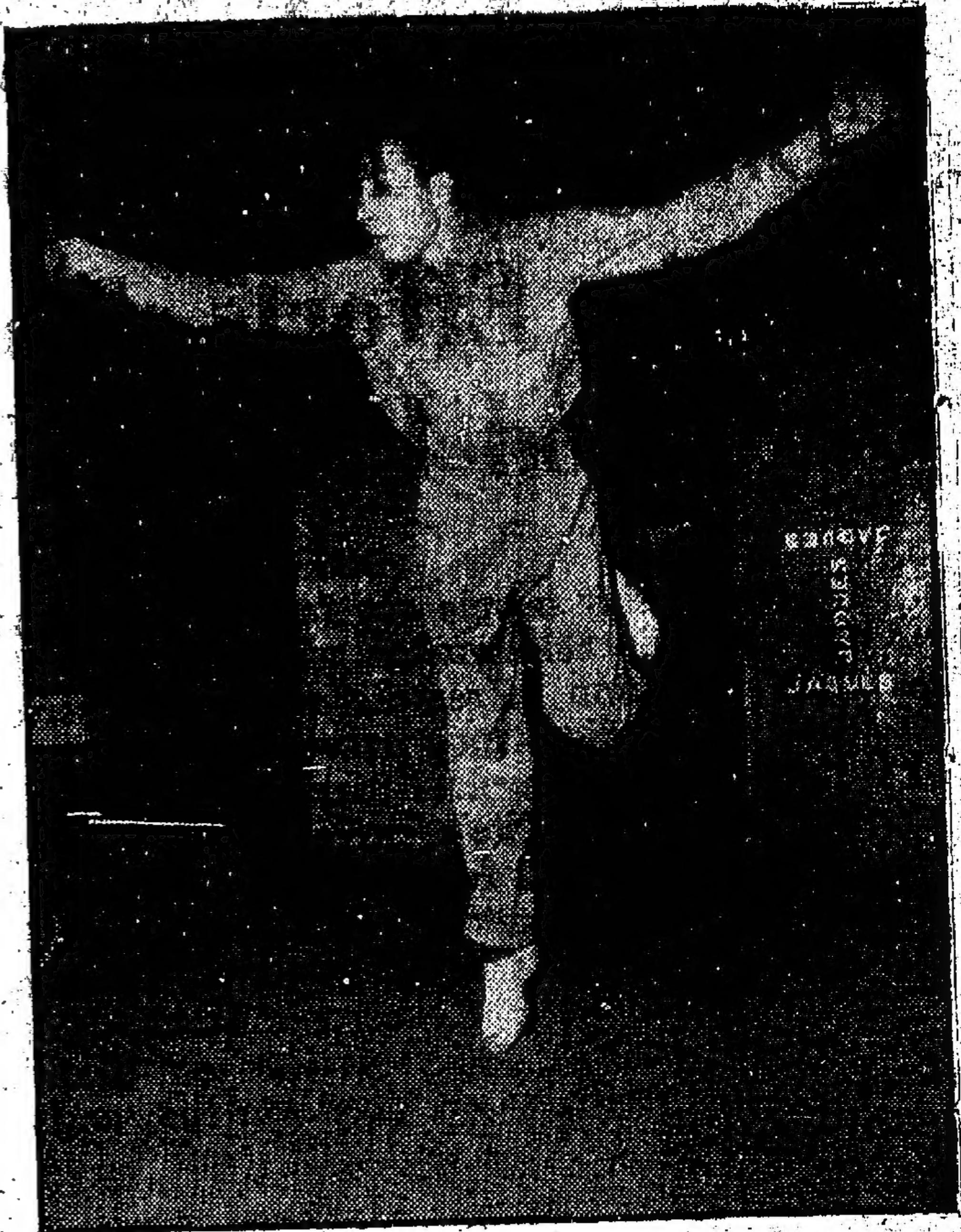
Melbourne.

The Australian Lawn Tennis Association may soon ban player-writers from competing in tournaments, according to a LTAA official.

Among well-known players who will be affected if the ban is enforced are John Bromwich, who represented Australia at the last Davis Cup, and the former Davis Cup players, Adrian Quist and Colin Long.

Harry Hopman, who managed the Australian team which captured the Davis Cup from the United States last year, has been a regularly employed journalist for many years.—Reuter.

UPSET ARTIST



R. Roothoft, of France, was responsible for the biggest upset of the English Table Tennis Championships at Wembley when he beat Britain's No. 1, Johnny Leach, in the quarter-finals.—Central Press Photo.

Bristol Rovers Are Gluttons For Punishment

Says ARCHIE QUICK

Bristol Rovers are gluttons for punishment when it comes to cup-tie football. Having taken five hours to dismiss non-league Llanelly in the first round of the FA Cup Competition, they required five more hours to beat Gillingham.

And goodness knows how long it would have been if it had not been for a fortuitous penalty kick awarded by a kindly referee five minutes before the end of the second replay in fog and snow at Tottenham. Another five minutes and it would have meant extra time—and the light was not good enough for that ever to have been completed. So it would have been another 1½ hours struggle some other day.

Bristol is soccer crazy at the moment. City are regularly attracting gates of over 30,000, both sides are in the third round of the cup, and Rovers are lying handily third in Division Three South. They have got 15 points out of the last 18 played for, this despite the fact that through their cup commitments they will have played ten matches in December.

FALSE IMPRESSION

I was surprised to learn at Tottenham how fixtures are working out this season through interference by cup ties. Manager Scott Duncan, of Ipswich, told me that he has gone six Saturdays without a home first team match, and Manager Alec Stock, of Leyton Orient, said that his side has played only seven of their 20 matches at home. Both agree that lack of continuity resulted in loss of support and interest, as well as giving a false impression in

the tables.

I was also told at Tottenham — where I saw the biggest collection of managers, scouts and directors of the season — that in connection with the Festival of Britain matches next May, the Football Association have asked the clubs to guarantee the continental sides they are playing £200 per match in addition to housing and feeding them while they are in Britain.

The FA have also discovered that these matches have been arranged by them in the height of the European season, and this will necessitate the additional expense of flying the visitors here. I do not see why the extra burden should fall on struggling Third Division clubs.

It is probable too that a number of the games arranged will be cancelled because the continental sides will not be able to fit in the trips among their home fixtures. Bad staff work here somewhere.

Sedgman To Stay An Amateur

Melbourne.

The Australian Tennis Champion and Davis Cup player, Frank Sedgman, will remain an amateur.

Denying a report published in the London "Daily Mail" that he was expected to join Bobby Riggs' tennis "circus" after the Davis Cup next year, Sedgman said: "It looks like a publicity stunt."

He said that Riggs had not approached him, and he had no intention of joining a professional.—Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS



The Churchill Story: 11th Instalment THE NAVY WAS READY

By Colin Frame

SO long as Britain has a history Winston Churchill will be remembered for two inestimable services he rendered her.

They are his perfect preparation for war at sea in one conflict and his leadership to victory of a less well prepared nation in another.

When he went at 36 to the Admiralty in 1911 his commission was: "To put the fleet into a state of instant and constant readiness for war in case we are attacked by Germany."

'Fleet Was Ready'

WHEN in 1915 in one of the darkest hours of his life, he left the War Room with its flagged maps of oceans ruled by the British Navy, Kitchener (who had no great cause to love him) came to him and said: "There is one thing they cannot take from you—the fleet was ready."

He threw himself into his task with zest of a boy. He smelt danger, and danger has always been to him an inspiration. He took fantastic risks to combat it.

The boy who hated mathematics at school and the man who boasted that he "quitted mathematics for ever in 1894" became involved in the most deadly tables of calculation, ratios, speeds, thicknesses of armour, weights of shot, tons of coal, gallons of oil.

His schoolmaster was Lord Fisher, ex-First Sea Lord, a ruthless, eccentric patriot with the sea in his eyes and salt on his tongue.

His Friend Fisher

THIS was one of Churchill's strangest friends. They first met in 1907. Fisher was then twice Churchill's age. But they enjoyed from the start—a David and Jonathan relationship.

In their pugnacious, energetic, enterprising outlook they were very much alike. And it was a likeness, belief in their personal infallibility, that was to split their friendship asunder later on—but not before it had worked well for Britain.

Churchill spent three days at Lord Fisher's home at Reigate Priory as soon as he became First Lord.

When he left he was tempted to invite Fisher back officially to help him. But—he wrote in "The World Crisis" (published by Odhams Press, Ltd)—"I was apprehensive of his age. I could not feel complete confidence in the poise of his mind at 71." Three years later, he did invite him. Once again, as First Sea Lord, Fisher, pounding with ideas and completely confident of victory, electrified the Navy.

Meanwhile between Reigate and Whitehall poured a steady stream of advice, warnings, angry protests, oaths, Biblical tests and snatches of poetry which were Fisher's quaint ideas of memoranda.

These notes usually began "My Beloved Winston" and ended "Yours till hell freezes (or charcoal sprouts)."

JEST A MINUTE!

By GEOFFREY EVANS



"America isn't it, practically every day something goes up!"

One sad day, as Churchill has recalled, hell froze and charcoal did indeed sprout for both of them.

Churchill received from him something like 20,000 written words of advice. Here is a typical sample:

"The most damnable person for you to have any dealings with is a Naval expert! Sea fighting is pure common sense. The first of all necessities is SPEED, so as to be able to fight.

When you like,
Where you like, and
How you like.

... and you'll make the Germans squirm!"

As a civilian more soldierly than soldiers, as a politician more Liberal than Liberals, Churchill now became more admirably sea-conscious than his admirals.

No naval station in Great Britain missed a visit of inspection from him. For months on end he lived aboard the Admiralty yacht Enchantress.

He sailed the North Sea and the Mediterranean. He peered into every dockyard. He knew by heart the guns and complement of practically every ship whose names, rich in naval tradition, sound yet like a roll of drums or the lilt of a catchy tune.

Plane Crash

HE flew in those new-fangled flying machines and invented the terms "sea-plane" and "fight." He founded the forerunner of the Fleet Air Arm.

He once crashed off Clacton and was nearly drowned; but he continued to fly and was disappointed in the lack of enthusiasm for "flips" shown by Cabinet colleagues.

Spurred by Fisher he took a gambling risk which might have hamstrung the British Fleet and ended his career for ever.

He built a Fast Division of five battleships and gave secret orders for 15-inch guns instead of the tried and tested 13.5-inchers.

("What's the meaning of those damned dots?" his father, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, had asked about decimal points.)

These guns went practically straight to the ships from the drawing-board. A mistake would have meant five useless hulks on the eve of battle.

But when the challenge came they were ready to bark defiance at the enemy, and their ton-heavy bite reached twelve miles, outgunning the Germans.

Prince Louis

THIS life-or-death gamble which Churchill took at 37 came off brilliantly, forerunner of others then and years ahead which were to fray the nerves of strong men at home and topple tyrants from their perches abroad.

Bearded, wise, dignified Prince Louis of Battenberg (later the Marquis of Milford Haven, father of Lord Mountbatten) was another of Churchill's closest advisers in those busy days.

"When I joined the British Navy in 1868 the German Empire did not exist," he told a German who suggested he was betraying his blood.

But the Prince's German kinship was to bring him down at length at the hands of a witch-hunting public opinion, and Churchill himself did not escape blame for his appointment.

Kept Ahead

CHURCHILL's private secretary was the young man who had watched from the Nile the battle of Omdurman—Beatty of the jaunty hat, future hero of North Sea battles.

For three years, building, refitting, introducing oil for coal, Churchill kept the British Navy well ahead in the race with Germany.

He proposed a naval holiday from building in 1913—he called it introducing "a blank page into the book of misunderstanding"—but there was no German acceptance.

In October of that year he wrote to Prince Louis that next summer, instead of the usual grand manoeuvres, there should be a test mobilisation of the Third Fleet. He reckoned this would save about £200,000 in fuel.

Never was money saved to such good purpose. And never did blind intuition work so miraculously to safeguard an empire.

Spithead Review

ON July 18, 1914, the Third Fleet, manned to the last cabin boy, armed to the last shell, sailed before the King at Spithead.

A week later the Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, god-father with F. E. Smith of Churchill's three-year-old boy Randolph, told the Cabinet it looked as if war was coming at last.

That fortuitously-gathered Third Fleet did not sail home again until the war was over and won.

During the last few days before war finally broke upon the still unsuspecting heads of many Britons, Churchill took more gambles.

He spent Sunday, July 26, with his family at Cromer. He played on the beach with his children, Randolph and Diana, then five.

It was a lovely day. They dammed little streams running down the sands. Mrs Churchill sat by watching them. She was to have baby Sarah in three months. Twice he left the children's laughter to phone to Prince Louis in London. Then he went to London himself to take a decision to keep the First Fleet concentrated at Portland the Second at home ports.

On July 29, to safeguard it against surprise attack or being bottled-up in the Channel, he sent the First Fleet through the Straits without lights to its secret base at Scapa Flow.

On August 1, entirely on his own initiative because he could not obtain Cabinet backing, Churchill ordered the complete mobilisation of the Navy.

This was strictly illegal. The Cabinet confirmed and the King added his necessary signature only the next day when the machinery was already turning fast.

On August 2 he signalled plans for the shadowing of the German battleship Goeben, then in the Mediterranean. By August 4, when Britain was at war with Germany, he and his advisers had only to sit back and handle the Fleets as other experts handle chessmen.

Britannia indeed ruled the waves. Churchill whose leadership and drive had made sure she did, was still in his thirties.

'Happy Face'

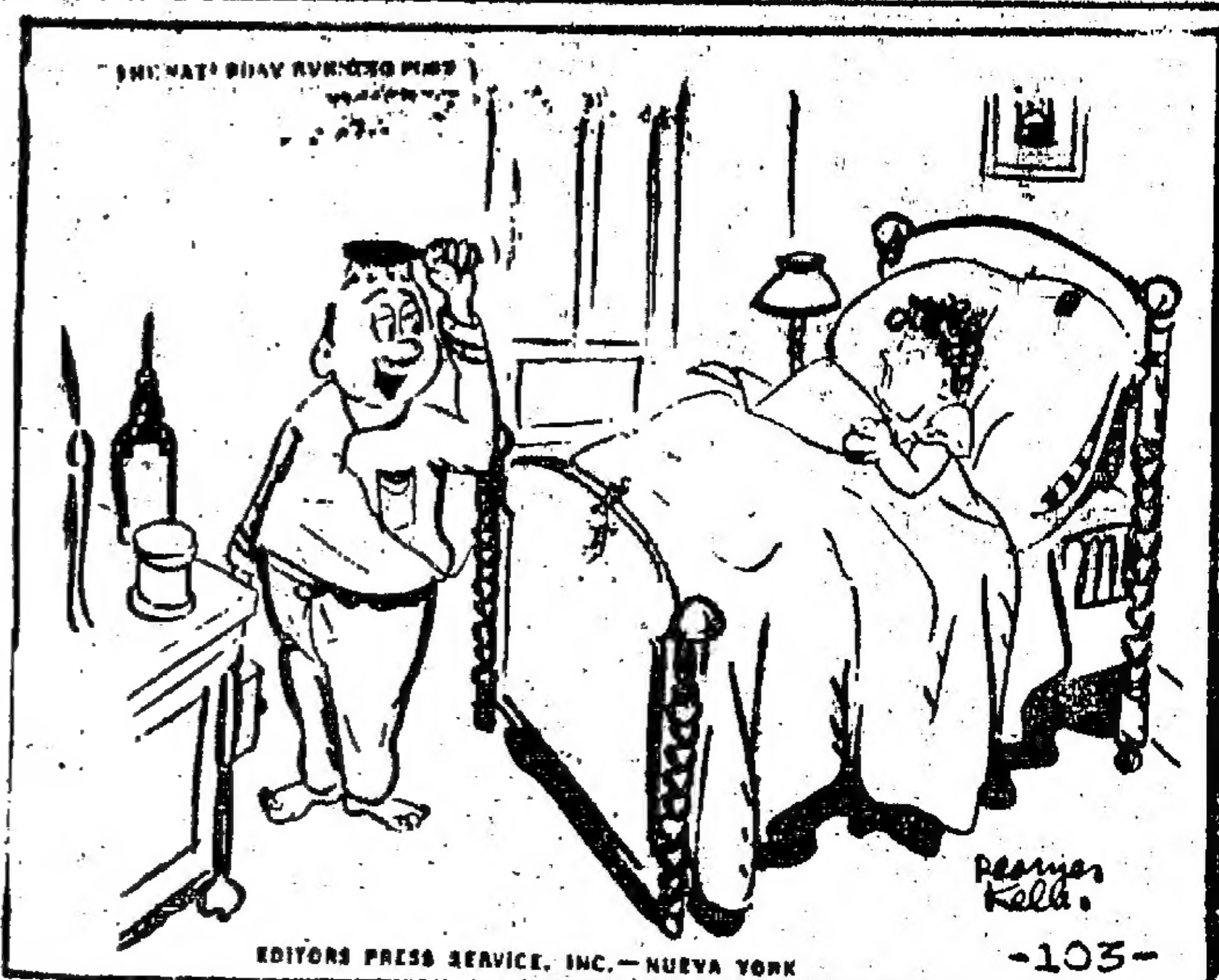
HE wrote of the First Fleet graphically in "The World Crisis": "... squadron by squadron, scores of giant castles of steel wending their way across the misty, shining sea, like giants bowed in anxious thought... bearing with them into the broad waters of the north the safeguard of considerable affairs."

Margot Asquith reported that as the ultimatum to Germany expired Churchill wore "a happy face." Well he might, if duty well done is a cause for happiness.

But (wrote biographer Ephesian) the next day while Asquith told the Commons they were at war, tears rolled down Churchill's face.

For had not he, who had prepared so thoroughly for what Fisher insisted on calling Armageddon, warned the House in his first important speech fourteen years earlier that the new wars between peoples would be more terrible than the old wars between kings?

MORE ON TUESDAY



"It is just my imagination, or is this brush getting stiffer?"

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

International Allocation Scheme For Rubber

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 28.

Plans for some form of international allocation scheme for rubber are under serious consideration by British and American Government officials who are examining means of alleviating raw material shortages.

It is believed here that an American Government announcement on its plans to bulk purchase natural rubber, which is expected this week, may be the forerunner to an international scheme designed to ensure that supplies are distributed according to the defence needs of the North Atlantic Treaty countries.

The American Government is known to be seriously concerned over recent shipments of Malayan rubber to Russia and China. It is therefore believed by some sections of the London rubber market that America will demand an end to this trade.

The American Government would also like to see shipments of rubber to Hongkong banned—to prevent them being re-exported to China.

The view most often expressed in London rubber trade circles is that the ban on shipments of Malayan rubber

to Russia and China would not necessarily prevent these countries obtaining supplies. It is pointed out that Malaya produces less than half of the world's rubber. Indonesia, whose production during the past few months has exceeded that of Malaya, is anxious to stay neutral in the East-West dispute, and her co-operation in any international allocation scheme would be difficult to obtain.

Discussing the future of the free market in rubber, Francis Whitmore, financial editor of the Daily Telegraph, says the US might seek to enlist the support of the British Government for its stockpile programme.

"The market envisages that might involve both buying by the British Government and acceptance by British industry of a small amount of American synthetic in place of natural rubber in the latter part of 1951," he writes. "The trade does not expect so wide a spread of Government buying as to destroy the market."

U.S. IMPRESSIONS

Washington, Dec. 28.

Although United States officials will neither confirm nor deny it, the general impression of informed circles here is that the General Services Administration will start overall buying of natural rubber before the end of the year.

A non-Government rubber executive said today that the organisation, which replaced the Federal Supply Bureau, will probably buy direct from New York importers and use agents of big United States rubber companies in Malaya and elsewhere to make natural rubber purchases for the United States Government.

This source said: "We expected an announcement to be made before Christmas and now believe it will be forthcoming in the first week of January."

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: West.

East-West game.

N.

♠ J 10 5

♥ 7 4 2

♦ A K

♣ Q 8 7 5 4

W.

♠ Q 8 6 4 2

♥ A K J 9

♦ 10 8 7 3

♣ J 2

S.

♠ A 9 7 3

♥ 6 5

♦ Q 9 6 5 4

♣ 3 2

At most tables in a duplicate pairs' contest, East's natural raise of West's One Heart opening to Three encouraged West to bid Four, but several declarers went wrong in the play after North had bid Clubs on the first round.

London Press

ISOLATIONISM A DEAD ISSUE

President Truman's Reply To Herbert Hoover

American People Supporting Administration's Policy

Washington, Dec. 28.

President Truman told the Press today that the United States will never go back to isolationism which, Mr. Truman said, is advocated by Herbert Hoover.

At his weekly news conference the President was asked to comment on the recent speech of former President Herbert Hoover which advocated a defence programme limited to the Western hemisphere and the surrounding waters until such time as the free nations show willingness to oppose Communism in Europe and Asia.

Mr Truman replied his only comment was that the United States is never going back to isolationism. Asked if Mr Hoover's policy represented isolationism, Mr Truman replied it was nothing else.

He said mail being received at the White House is strongly supporting the policy on international affairs which he himself advocates, rather than the policy proposed by Mr Hoover. Asked what would happen to the country if the Government took Mr Hoover's advice, Mr Truman said he could not comment on that without having to make a speech that might take all afternoon.

One reporter wanted to know whether the opinion of the country to the Hoover plan was reflected in mail to the White House. The President answered curtly by saying the mail to the White House was the business of the President of the United States.

Mr Truman plans to deliver his State of the Union message to Congress in person on Jan. 8 if he can get it ready by that time.

FORMOSA POLICY

Mr Truman declined to say whether the Government contemplated any change in its policy towards keeping the Chinese Nationalist forces on Formosa out of the fighting in the Far East.

The decision to restore full diplomatic relations with Spain on ambassadorial level did not in any way change his opinion of Spain or American policy towards that country, but merely provided a little more orderly way of doing business.

During his remarks about Mr Hoover, the President said he was unaware of a speech to be made on Friday by Mr John Foster Dulles, Republican advisor to the State Department. Mr Dulles' speech was said to be another reply to Mr Hoover's defence plan, but Mr Dulles said this was not so. The President said he knew nothing about Mr Dulles' speech.

ECONOMIC CONTROLS

A reporter told the President of a report that Governor Thomas Dewey of New York had consulted with the White House before making his recent speech in which he advocated the formation of a 100-division army. The President knew only that Mr Dewey had not consulted him, but that a lot of people worked in the White House, and that Mr Dewey might have talked to somebody.

The President was also asked how soon he thought it might become necessary to invoke widespread economic controls.

He said if that became necessary, the Government would do it, but for the time being he thought the price administration agencies of the Government should be given time to get their current projects into operation.

One reporter wanted to know whether he planned to do anything about rising food prices, pointing out that the Government had frozen the prices of commodities, but done nothing as regards food. The President would not comment directly on the price control, but said he was looking on it as

hard as possible, and he asked that they be given a chance.—United Press.

CLASH IN SULTAN'S PALACE

Aden, Dec. 28.

Official sources said today that eight political demonstrators were killed and five soldiers wounded in a clash on Wednesday in the Sultan's Palace at Makalla in Eastern Aden. The Sultan imposed martial law and ordered a curfew.

Makalla was reported quiet yesterday. The disturbance broke out upon the return from India of his Highness the Sultan Sir Salih bin Ghalib al Qu'ait.

Last week the State Secretary of Makalla, resigned and left for Mombasa. The national political party, Hazbalwatan, demanded the appointment of a substitute who was not a foreigner. The Sultan's son, Prince Awadth, asked them to postpone their request until the return of his father.

The Sultan interviewed Party leaders on Wednesday, according to official sources, whereupon their supporters broke into the palace. Guards opened fire and killed eight demonstrators, the sources added, and five soldiers were wounded in the clash.—United Press.

Yugoslavia Apologises To America

Belgrade, Dec. 28.

The Yugoslav Government today expressed to the United States Ambassador, Mr George Allen, its deepest regret at the planting of an incendiary bomb at the United States information centre in Belgrade.

The Deputy Foreign Minister offered Mr Allen the fullest co-operation of the police in apprehending those responsible.

The home-made bomb was discovered yesterday. The preliminary police report said the apparatus could have been sufficient to start a small fire. Embassy officials speculated that it had been planted by a disgruntled Communist who wished to embarrass the Yugoslav Government at a time when it was seeking aid from the United States.

The bomb was discovered behind some books in the library.—United Press.



Don't ask for Mercy—she's off to the South. Mercy Haystead, 18, who has played in three British films in six months, takes a last dip at Roehampton before going to Venice to model British clothes—and pick up a film part, too, perhaps.

Prelate Supports Use Of Atom Bomb

London, Dec. 28.

Britain's second-ranking prelate said today that the Western powers would be justified in using the atomic bomb in a final attempt to save Western civilisation from unprovoked aggression.

But, he added, the use of the bomb in the Korean war, even if the United Nations forces were defeated, would "outrage the conscience."

Dr Cyril Garbett, Archbishop of York, said in a letter to his Diocese that an attempt should be made at the earliest possible moment and at the highest level to reach agreement in Asia. There could be no peace in the world without such an effort.

Dr Garbett said the necessity of a good understanding with China was of paramount importance.

The use of the atomic bomb against China's armies would "outrage the conscience of our nation. A defeat of the United Nations forces may be remedied; but victory through use of the atom bomb would never be forgotten or forgiven, and would result in an irreparable breach. Use of the bomb could only be justified as a final attempt to save Western civilisation from catastrophic ruin by unprovoked aggression."

Dr Garbett is the first high-ranking church official in Europe to voice qualified support for the use of the atomic bomb.—United Press.

MP A REFUGEE

Seoul, Dec. 28.

South Korean police said today that they had discovered a member of the North Korean Assembly hiding among refugees who had just crossed the 38th Parallel.

He was Pyongsoo Kim, former president of a medical college. They said that they were questioning him, but he had refused to say why he had joined the refugees.—Reuter.

Strip-Tease In The Jungle

Singapore, Dec. 28.

Fifty guerillas are roaming the Pahang jungle dressed only in their underpants, according to military intelligence here.

They had just washed their clothes in a stream when security forces surprised them and they fled, leaving their clothing and their packs behind them.—Reuter.

THIS STORY WAS NOT CENSORED

With the Eighth Army Headquarters in Korea, Dec. 28. Capt. James Tate Jr.—one of the Eighth Army's newly appointed news censors—picked up a blue pencil and tackled his first story on Thursday. It was a United Press dispatch which read:

"War correspondents assigned to Eighth Army headquarters got free cigars today. They were passed out by Captain James Tate, Jr., of 227 E. 11th Street, Rome, Georgia of the Public Information Section's Press Security Section."

"On the cigar box was a sign reading:

"It's a boy! Name: James Henry Tate III. Weight: Nine pounds, two ounces. Date: 22 December, 1950. Havacigar?"

The story was approved without a mark.—United Press.

Compromise In French Arms Bill

Paris, Dec. 28.

The French Government tonight easily smashed a Communist attempt to block its 355,000,000,000 franc rearmament bill. At the same time it sought to appease the rebellious National Assembly by slashing from 165,000,000,000 francs to 145,000,000,000 francs the amount of new funds to finance the arms programme and by lopping 4,500,000,000 francs off the programme itself.

The Communist attempt to block the bill altogether was defeated by 420 votes to 175.

Immediately afterward the Government made the compromise offer of cuts in a letter to the Assembly.

Public debate on the bill was then suspended to enable the Assembly's Finance Committee to study the letter.—United Press.

Anti-Inflation Move

Washington, Dec. 28.

The Federal Reserve Board raised its reserve requirements for member banks in an anti-inflation move that will remove about \$2,000,000,000 of potential idle funds from circulation.

The Board ordered Federal Reserve Banks to raise their reserves to 23 percent of their net demand deposits by January 11, and said another increase to 24 percent must be made by January 25.

The present deposit requirement is 22 percent.—United Press.

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